



# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## GROWING THE ECONOMY AND CREATING GOOD-PAYING JOBS



Governor Whitmer is laser-focused on growing Michigan’s economy and ensuring every community can thrive. She has announced [over 32,550 auto jobs](#), including the first Detroit plant in 30 years, and established and funded two game-changing workforce development programs—Michigan Reconnect and Futures for Frontliners—putting tens of thousands of Michiganders on a tuition-free path to a good-paying, high-skill job. Michigan has ushered in the fastest small business growth in 23 years, was the number state for energy job growth in 2021, and has received multiple [awards](#) for its strong manufacturing [capabilities](#) and potential. Governor Whitmer will continue pursuing investments in infrastructure, higher education and skills programs, and industries of the future to create even more good-paying jobs and usher in a new era of prosperity for Michigan.

*“We need to stay laser-focused on growing Michigan’s economy, creating more good-paying jobs, and lowering costs for families, seniors, and small businesses. Together, we can build an economy that works for every worker, bring supply chain home from China to Michigan, and create opportunity in every community. We will continue investing in the kitchen-table economic issues to ensure that Michiganders have more money in their pockets and spend less to get by.”*

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer

### Announcing over 30,690 new good-paying auto jobs

- GM announced a [\\$7 billion investment](#) in Lansing and Orion Township creating 4,000 jobs and a [\\$2.2 billion investment](#) to build Factory Zero creating 2,000 jobs.
- Stellantis announced the [first new plant in Detroit](#) in nearly 30 years, creating 6,000 jobs. They also announced an [\\$83 million investment](#) at their Dundee Engine Complex.
- Ford announced a [\\$1.45 billion investment](#) creating 3,000 jobs to help produce the first-ever electric F-150. Made another [\\$250 million investment](#) creating 450 jobs to boost production. Also won a [\\$2 billion investment](#) creating 3,200 jobs increasing capacity across several Southeast Michigan plants.
- LG Energy Solution announced a [\\$1.7 billion investment](#) in Holland creating 1,200 jobs.
- Gotion announced a [\\$2.3 billion investment](#) in Big Rapids creating 2,350 jobs building electric vehicle battery components.
- Our Next Energy announced [HQ in Novi](#) and a [\\$1.6 billion investment](#) in Van Buren Township creating 2,112 jobs building electric vehicle batteries.
- [Thousands more jobs](#) in automotive manufacturing, mobility, and electrification.

### Securing investments in semiconductor and chip manufacturing

- Hemlock Semiconductor announced a [\\$37 million investment](#) creating 170 good-paying jobs at its headquarters Thomas Township.
- SK Siltron announced a [\\$300 million investment](#) creating 150 jobs in Bay City.
- KLA announced a [\\$150 million investment](#) creating 600 good-paying jobs in Ann Arbor.
- Wacker announced a [\\$50 million investment](#) supporting 300 jobs to open a cutting-edge innovation center in Ann Arbor.
- Calumet Electronics announced a [\\$6.5 million investment](#) creating 80 jobs in the Keweenaw Peninsula.

### Ushering a strong economic recovery

- Led the [best economic recovery](#) in Michigan history, added [220,000 jobs](#) in 2021.
- Collaborated with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) to attract over [\\$11 billion in investments](#) from over 30 companies in the first half of 2022.
- Ushered in the [fastest small business growth](#) in 23 years and a [24% increase](#) in small business revenue.
- Worked to establish Michigan as the [Number 1 state](#) for energy sector job growth in 2021.

- Announced [World Economic Forum's Centre for Advanced Manufacturing](#) to be built in Michigan.
- Made Michigan a standout state for investors with [better than ever bond returns](#).
- Outlined an economic vision with a \$2.1 billion plan, [MI New Economy](#), to grow Michigan's middle class, support small businesses, and invest in communities.
- Signed bipartisan economic development bills creating the [Strategic Outreach Attraction Reserve \(SOAR\) fund](#) to empower Michigan to win large manufacturing projects and create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs.
- Delivered a [bipartisan supplemental package](#) to bring the SOAR fund to \$846 million, empowering the state to keep attracting billions in private investment.
- Signed a [bipartisan tax cut](#), [reduced tax burden](#), and [increased tax flexibility](#) for small businesses, enabling them to grow and create jobs.
- Signed a bipartisan bill to [cut costs](#) for Michigan distilleries.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) to effectively utilize every available resource from the CHIPS and Science Act.
- Signed [three executive directives](#) to harness all available resources from the federal Inflation Reduction Act to lower costs for families, lower the cost of doing business, and create good-paying jobs in Michigan.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) to increase state procurement and contracts with small and geographically disadvantaged businesses.
- Created and funded the [Office of Rural Development](#) and secured [\\$50 million](#) for food and agriculture economic development projects.
- Signed a bipartisan bill to [cut costs](#) for Michigan distilleries.
- Set up [23 COVID-19 economic relief programs](#) that delivered over \$240 million to small businesses in all 83 Michigan counties, supported over 25,000 companies, and retained over 200,000 jobs.

### Cutting costs for consumers and families

- Proposed a [roll back of Michigan's retirement tax](#) to save half a million households an average of \$1,000 a year.
- Proposed [MI Tax Rebate Right Now](#), a plan to deliver inflation relief by sending working families \$500 dollars from the state's billions in additional revenue.
- Proposed tripling the [Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit](#) to give over 730,000 working families an average combined federal and state tax refund of \$3,000.
- Proposed a state [\\$2,500 rebate](#) for the purchase of an electric vehicle and at-home charging station on top of the \$7,500 federal credit.
- Proposed suspending the [sales tax on school supplies](#) to save families money.
- Signed bipartisan legislation to put [money back in people's pockets](#) and bring down the cost of car insurance, [saving](#) drivers at least \$120 per car [in 2020](#).
- Delivered refunds of [\\$400 per vehicle back](#) in the pockets of Michigan drivers.
- Eliminated the [tampon tax](#), saving families from paying taxes on up to \$4,800 in spending over the course of a lifetime.
- Signed legislation to protect Michiganders against [surprise medical billing](#).
- Signed the INFORM Act to [protect consumers](#) from price gouging by third-party online retailers and protect retailers in Michigan from organized retail crime.
- Announced the [MI Open Account Coalition](#) to offer low or no-cost financial services for unbanked and underbanked Michiganders, saving them an average of \$3,000 a year and helping them build wealth.

### Paving pathways for opportunity

- Set the [Sixty by 30 Goal](#) to have at least [60% of Michiganders](#) earn a postsecondary degree or technical certificate by 2030.
- Established and [fully funded](#) programs to provide hundreds of thousands of Michiganders tuition-free higher education or skills training that leads to a high-skill, good-paying job.
  - [Michigan Reconnect](#), a program that pays tuition of Michiganders 25 and up to pursue an associate degree or earn a skills certificate in high-demand careers.
  - [Futures for Frontliners](#), a program that provides a tuition-free path to postsecondary education or skills training for Michiganders who served on the frontlines of the pandemic.
  - [Michigan Achievement Scholarship](#), a program to make college more affordable for high school graduates. Starting with the class of 2023, students will be eligible for an annual scholarships worth up to \$5,500.
- Invested in [Going Pro](#) to help businesses up-skill in-house talent, secured resources for talent retention and expansion in key industries, [eliminated barriers to employment](#), and expanded partnerships with union training facilities.
- Made the State of Michigan a [top-ten employer for new graduates](#), attracting talent to Michigan.

- Won federal funding to create [1,417 apprenticeships in new sectors](#) with an emphasis on recruiting Michiganders from historically underrepresented groups.
- Created the [Entrepreneurship & Innovation Program](#) which led to over 1,300 high-tech companies being formed in Michigan, and over 20,000 new full time equivalent jobs.

### **Ensuring Michigan's taxpayer dollars to put Michigan jobs and workers first**

- Signed a directive to [fight payroll fraud](#), ensuring companies can't misclassify employees and deny them pay and benefits. This incentivized the state to increase contracts with companies that create good-paying jobs in Michigan and are good stewards of the state.
- Reinstated [prevailing wage](#) for state construction projects, ensuring working people in Michigan receive a fair wage.
- Created the "[Buy Michigan](#)" campaign to support state grown and raised products.
- Set up [23 COVID-19 economic relief programs](#) that delivered over \$240 million to small businesses in all 83 Michigan counties, supported over 25,000 companies, and retained over 200,000 jobs.